

DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL

REGION 2

10 HEINZ AVE., SUITE 200
BERKELEY, CA 94710-2737

(510) 540-3724



February 9, 1995

Commander
Western Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Attn.: Mr. Gary MuneKawa, Engineer in Charge
Code
900 Commodore Drive
San Bruno, California 94066-2402

Dear Mr. MuneKawa:

REQUEST FOR INSTALLATION OF GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELLS AT THE WEST BEACH LANDFILL WETLAND, NAVAL AIR STATION, ALAMEDA

The California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) request that the Navy install groundwater monitoring wells at the West Beach Landfill wetlands. The purpose of these wells is to help determine the groundwater chemistry in the wetlands, as well as the impact the West Beach Landfill may have on the wetlands.

The installation of these wells is time critical. The information gathered from these wells is crucial to the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for the landfill (OU3) and the wetlands (OU4). The DTSC and RWQCB request these wells be in place and monitored by March 15, 1995. Monitoring the wells in March will provide groundwater data for the winter quarterly monitoring event. The Navy should be prepared to discuss the installation of these wells at the February 14, 1995 Project Manager's meeting.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please call me at (510) 540-3809.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Thomas P. Lanphar", is written over the typed name.

Thomas P. Lanphar
Project Manager
Base Closure Branch

cc: See next page

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Mr. Gary Munekawa
February 9, 1995
Page Two

cc: Mr. James Nusrala
Regional Water Quality Control Board
2101 Webster Street, Suite 500
Oakland, California 94612

Lt. Mike Petouhoff
Base Environmental Coordinator
Alameda Naval Air Station
Building 1, Code 52
Alameda, California 94501

Mr. James Ricks
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
H-92
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 93003

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PETE WILSON, Governor

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD**SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION**

31 WEBSTER STREET, SUITE 300

OAKLAND, CA 94612

(510) 284-1255



Mr. Tom Lanphar
Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200
Berkeley, CA 94710

February 3, 1995
File No. 2199.9285 (JN)

Subject: Request for the Installation of Groundwater Monitoring Wells on the Interface of the West Beach Landfill and the West Beach Landfill wetland at the Naval Air Station, Alameda

Dear Mr. Lanphar:

After reviewing the Final Field Sampling Plan for Follow-On Work, Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, dated October 14, 1994, for the West Beach Landfill and the Ecological Assessment Addendum, dated July 1, 1994, for the West Beach Landfill wetland, the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (SFBRWQCB) requests that the Navy install groundwater monitoring wells along the interface between the landfill and the wetland. The placement and number of these wells shall be approved by this agency. This area is a data gap that needs to be filled before finalizing the Feasibility Study for both sites. The Ecological Assessment, in Figure 7-12, shows that the West Beach Landfill has an adverse effect on both the sediment chemistry and sediment toxicity of the West Beach Landfill wetland. The four sediment samples, W4 through W7, have high chemical concentrations (when indexed to the Effects-Range Low (ER-L) value for a number of constituents, the value is between 3 and 5), and are all toxic to the Eohaustorius estuarius bioassay species. The sediments only look at the surface contamination. The Navy needs to further explore the vertical extent of contamination along the interface between the landfill and the wetland.


In addition to installing groundwater monitoring wells along the interface between the West Beach Landfill and the West Beach Landfill wetland, the Navy needs to consider placing wells in the interior of the wetland site, just southwest of the interface. This will be needed to examine any attenuation of groundwater contamination as it moves from the landfill site through the wetlands, if indeed this pathway exists.

The Navy needs to have the wells installed and ready to monitor by March 15. The reason for this early date is to allow the Navy to collect 2 quarters of groundwater data (spring and summer) from these wells, for inclusion in the Remedial Investigation for Operable Unit 3 (the landfills). (If the Navy can accelerate the process and have the wells ready to monitor this area in the late winter months, that will provide an even more realistic picture of the groundwater conditions at the interface of the landfill and the wetland.) Three quarters of groundwater data (spring, summer, and fall) shall be included in the Remedial Investigation for Operable Unit 4 (the sediment and wetland sites), since it is on a slightly later track. The RWQCB expects the Navy to be prepared to discuss this request for these monitoring wells, and meeting the conditions specified above at the February 14, 1995 Remedial Project Managers meeting.

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If you have any questions on the above matter, please contact me at (510) 286-0301.

Thank you,


James Nusrala
Project Manager